

Appl. No. 10/034,227
Amdt. dated March 15, 2005
Reply to Office action of December 16, 2004

REMARKS

I. CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-29 were pending. Claims 18 and 23 have been canceled. Claims 19 and 24 have been amended. Claims 1-17, 19-22, and 24-29 are therefore pending.

Claims 19 and 24 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claims 18 and 23, respectively. The scope of these claims is unchanged.

II. OBJECTIONS TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because they include a reference number not mentioned in the specification. Applicants have accordingly amended the specification to mention "123," the omitted reference number.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 18 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,813,208 ("Baker") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,587,371 ("Hidaka"). Applicants have canceled these claims to expedite prosecution, but hereby reserve the right to pursue these claims in a continuation application.

IV. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 19-22 and 24-27 were objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims. Applicants have canceled base claims 18 and 23, and have incorporated their limitations into respective claims 19 and 24. These amendments are believed to overcome this objection and to place the claims in allowable form.

Claims 1-17 and 28-29 were indicated to be allowable.

V. CONCLUSION

In the course of the foregoing discussions, Applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as

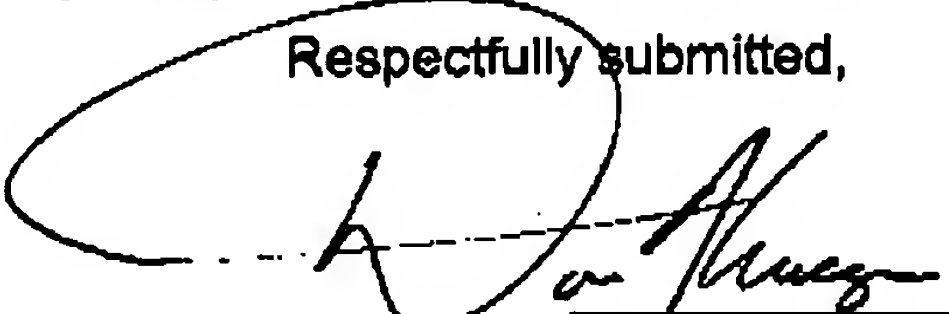
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a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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